

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Press Release

For Immediate Release: Monday, June 20, 2011

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FIRST WEEK'S WORK WENT WELL - RESURFACING SR 365 IN HALL AND HABERSHAM

LULA, Ga. – State Route 365 is getting a much needed make-over. The roadway is crumbling from decades of use. One week into the resurfacing project, The Georgia Department of Transportation announces work is going well. The project will remove the damaged asphalt and lay down a new, smooth driving surface on State Route 365/US 23 from SR 52 in Hall County to the split at SR 17 and US 441 in Habersham County.

"CW Matthews has averaged 2 miles per night. Tonight, crews are planning to finish work in the inside southbound lane to State Route 52. That will give us 12 of 84 lane miles rebuilt. If weather permits, Tuesday night crews will change sides and begin work on the outside northbound lane. The contractor's work plan breaks the project into two sections. The southern section is SR 52 to Crane Mill Road. Crews are actively working this area. The northern section is Crane Mill Road to the split at SR 17 and US 441. No work has begun yet on the northern section. We want you to know the scope of our work so you will understand that lowering your speed and paying extra attention in a work zone is imperative to your personal safety," explained District Engineer Todd McDuffie.

Damaged asphalt is removed to a depth of four to eight inches the first night of work. The pavement will be at different heights until both lanes are completed. Beware of the uneven pavement between the lanes.

The 21 mile long resurfacing project was awarded to C.W. Matthews Contracting of Marietta at a cost of \$19.2 million. The contract completion date is June 30, 2012.

Work is planned seven nights a week as weather permits. Lane closures will occur overnights only through June. After the July Fourth Holiday Weekend, crews will return to the work zone on SR 365 and work weekdays expect for peak travel times.

Lane closures will be allowed southbound anytime expect 5a.m. to 9 a.m. Mondays through Thursdays.

Lane closures will be allowed northbound anytime except 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

One lane in each direction may be closed each weekend. Southbound work is allowed to begin Fridays after morning rush hour at 9 a.m. and continue throughout the weekend to 5 a.m. Mondays. Northbound work is allowed to begin Fridays after evening rush hour at 9 p.m. and continue throughout the weekend to 4 p.m. Monday.

"Crews will work in three mile long work zones at a time. While crews work, the speed limit on SR 365 will be reduced to 55 miles per hour. Please remember, every fine you get in a work zone is doubled. We've seen people pay over \$1000 for tickets they receive in a work zone so for our safety, your safety and your budget, please slow down in every work zone you encounter," pleaded McDuffie.

Weekly updates will be emailed out to customers. If you would like to receive email updates on this project please email Teri Pope at tpope@dot.ga.gov or call her at 770-718-3924.

Each day, hundreds of Georgia Department of Transportation employees and contractors work on dozens of highway, bridge and intersection improvements throughout the state. Their work often brings them and heavy machinery in close proximity to travel lanes. Fifty-seven Georgia DOT personnel and many more motorists, passengers and contractors' workers have been killed in highway work zone accidents since 1973. Please help us prevent these tragedies by slowing down; being especially attentive and cautious as you pass through construction work zones; and always driving responsibly. Safer Driving; Safer Work Zones; For Everyone.

Motorists can access real-time, statewide, route-specific information on accidents, road work, traffic and weather conditions through **Georgia 511** - a free phone, web, and mobile service. By dialing 511, callers also can transfer to operators 24 hours a day to report incidents or request assistance. The system can be used to access transit providers, major airports, rideshare organizations, tourism information and 511 systems in surrounding states. Additionally, 511 is available online or as a hybrid solution via a free download for your smart phone. Georgia DOT partners with sponsors for assistance in funding 511, preserving tax dollars and helping sustain critical services. For more information about 511, its mobile application download, or to learn how to become a sponsor, visit www.511ga.org.

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